



Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests

903 3rd Street

Kamiah, Idaho 83536

Web: www.fs.usda.gov/nezperceclearwater



Media Contact: (208) 451-4956

NezPerce.Clearwaterfireinfo@gmail.com

Fire Update

September 7, 2015

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests morning update

Kamiah, Idaho – While the weather has checked the spread of many fires, a number of area, road, and trail closures remain in place in the vicinities of major fire activity due to public safety concerns. Forest managers are monitoring conditions daily and making adjustments based on fire activity and weather forecasts, which predict a return to temperatures in the 80s and 90s by next weekend.

Over the weekend, closures were lifted for Skull Creek Road 252 and South Skull Creek Road 710 on the Forests' North Fork Ranger District.

A large area closure for lands within the Moose Creek Ranger District was replaced with a smaller area closure and specific trail closures, providing more access into big game unit 16A.

More land is now accessible south of Highway 12 as two large area closures closing a swath of land from Wilderness Gateway Campground east to the Montana border was replaced by a smaller closure in the Powell vicinity. This opens up more country in big game unit 12.

Loops C and D of Wilderness Gateway Campground are now open as well as Wendover and Whitehouse Campgrounds in the Powell area.

All backcountry airstrips, including Fish Lake, have re-opened.

Since the closure and restriction situation is so fluid, individuals planning to visit the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests are encouraged to contact any of the Forests' offices or visit the Forests online at www.fs.usda.gov/nezperceclearwater and click the "fire information" tab for the latest fire information and a current map of closures. Additional information regarding specific fires or fire complexes can be accessed at www.inciweb.nwcg.gov.

South Zone (Salmon River and Red River Ranger Districts)

Little to no growth is being reported for the Red River Ranger District's two major fires: Slaughter Fire, 100 acres, located roughly seven airline miles west of Dixie; and Rattlesnake Fire, 1,350 acres, located roughly eight miles east of Dixie.

Major fires still burning on the Red River District are being managed by the Southern Area's "Red" Incident Management Team located at Red River. Information for those fires can be obtained from Inciweb, by calling 877-367-9503, or by emailing selwaycomplex2015@gmail.com.

The Tepee Springs Fire east of Riggins is burning on the Forests' Salmon River Ranger District, and has spread across roughly 19,000 acres on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests. That fire is being managed by an Incident Management Team who is also posting updates to Inciweb. Fire information can be obtained by calling 877-683-5560 or emailing payettefireinformation@gmail.com.

No changes were reported in fires being managed by the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests.

Central Zone (Lochsa-Powell and Moose Creek Ranger Districts)

Name: *Lochsa South Complex*

Location: South of Lochsa River from Warm Springs Creek to the Selway River

Started: August 15, 2015

Cause: Lightning

Total Acreage: 9,690 acres

Containment: 0% Contained

Active Fires within the Complex: Sponge 5,100 acres, Lone Lake 220 acres, Lone Knob 460 acres, Horse Camp 570 acres, Grit 525 acres, Fire Creek 1,210 acres, Airstrip 1,425 acres.

Major Events: Fires are being monitored.

Name: *Wilderness Complex*

Location: Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness (much of the Moose Creek Ranger District)

Started: August 4, 2015

Cause: Lightning

Total Acreage: 19,295 acres

Containment: 0%

Active Fires within the Complex: Roll Creek 7,850 acres, Rock Point 250 acres, Meeker 2,400 acres, Baily 1,525 acres, Army Mule Fire 5,400 acres, Barren 1,205 acres, Wahoo 650 acres.

Major Events: These fires are burning within the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness and are being monitored as they play their natural role in shaping the Wilderness landscape.

North Zone (Palouse and North Fork Ranger Districts)

Name: *Larkin Complex*

Location: Roughly 30 airline miles NE of Pierce

Started: August 17, 2015

Cause: Lightning

Total Acreage: 7,550 acres

Containment: 0% Contained

Active Fires within the Complex: Snow Creek Fire 3,310 acres, Wolf Pack Fire 1,385 acres, and Heather Fire 2,090 acres, Minnesaka 510, and Roaring 190, Twins 35, Platinum 25.

Name: *Scurvy Mountain Fire*

Location: 28 miles ENE of Pierce, Idaho

Started: August 21, 2015

Cause: Lightning

Total Acreage: 527 acres

Containment: 0% contained

Major Events: Spread limited due to rain, higher humidities and cooler temperatures. Actions have been taken to protect the Scurvy Mountain Lookout.

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Additional Information: Two other Incident Management Teams continue to manage fires and complexes of fires on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests. For information regarding the Motorway Complex, call (208)507-2643 or (208)926-4170, or email motorwaycomplex@gmail.com. For information regarding the Clearwater-Municipal-Motorway North Complexes call (208)476-5110 or (406)309-0371 or email Municipalfire.blueteam@gmail.com.

Closures: Closure orders are available at www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/nezperceclearwater/. Click on the fire information tab and scroll down to the closure area map and/or specific Forest orders.

Hunters: Current information is available from www.fishandgame.idaho.gov/fire.